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THE
IMPEACHMENT
AGAINST THE
BISHOPS.

Sent up by Serieant WILDE, and
delivered at the Barre in the
Lords house by order
of the House of
COMMONS.

Whereunto is added, the votes, concerning the Bishops
late Booke of Canons, in the said House.

August the 4. 1641.



London, Printed in the year, 1641.

THE
IMPEACHMENT

A. G. A. N. S. T. H. E.

B. I. S. H. O. P. S.

Sent up by Sir Isaac Newton, Bart. and

delivered at the Bar in the

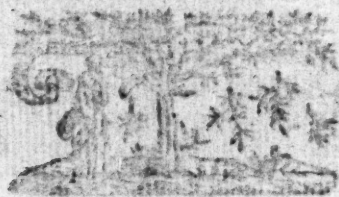
Lord's house by order

of the House of

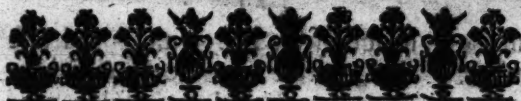
Commons.

Whereunto is added, the votes, concerning the Bishops
late Book of Canons, in the said House.

August the 4. 1641.



London: Printed in the year, 1641.



August the 4. 1641.

The impeachment against the
Bishops; sent up by Serjeant *wilde*,
and delivered at the Barre in the
Lords house verbally, by
order of the House.



Y Lords,

The Knights, Citizens, and Burgeses of the Commons house of Parliament, being sensible of the great Infelicities and Troubles which the Common-wealth hath sustained by the exorbitant courses of the Bishops, and knowing well what the wiseman saith; That if sentence bee not speedily executed against an evill worke, the hearts of the sonnes of men are set upon

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fur-

further mischief. The timely redresse
whereof doth better become the wisdom
of Parliament, then a too-late wofull repen-
tance, have commanded represent unto
your Lordships, That

Walter Bishop of Winchester.

Robert Bishop of Coventry and Litchfield.

Godfrey Bishop of Gloucester.

Joseph Bishop of Excester.

John Bishop of Asaph.

William Bishop of Bath and wells.

George Bishop of Hereford.

Mathew Bishop of Ely.

William Bishop of Bangor.

Robert Bishop of Bri Hall.

John Bishop of Rochester.

John Bishop of Peterborough.

Morgan Bishop of Landaffe.

Together with William Archbishop of Can-
terbury, and others of the Clergie of that
Province, at a Convocation or Synod for
the same Province begun at London, in the
yeare 1640, did contrive, make, and pro-
mulge severall Constitutions and Canons
Ecclesiasticall, containing in them divers
matters contrary to the Kings Prerogative,
to the fundamentall Lawes and Statutes, of
the

the Realme, to the Rights of Parliament, to the Propriety and Liberty of the Subjects, and matters tending to sedition, and of dangerous consequence.

And to adde the more weight and efficacy to this their monstrous designe, They did at the same Synod under a specious and faire Tytle grant a Benevolence or Contribution to his Majesty, to be paid by the Clergy of that Province, contrary to Law: It rested not there, for though this had been enough to have affrighted and terrified the Kings people with strange apprehensions and feares, yet that these might not seeme to be contrivancies of the brain or Fancies onely, they were put in Execution, and were executed upon divers with animosity and rigour, to the great oppression of the Clergy of this Realme, and other his Majesties subjects, and in contempt of the King, and of the Law.

Whether these persons my Lords, that are culpable of these Offences, shall be thought fit to have an Interest in the Legislative power your Lordships wisdom and Justice is able to judge.

But for these matters and things, The

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Knights,

Knights, Citizens, and Burgesſes of the Commons houſe in Parliament, in the name of themſelves, and of all the Commons of England, doe impeach the ſaid Biſhops before-named of the Crimes and Miſdemeanours before expreſſed, and doe therefore pray that they may bee forthwith put to their Answers in the Preſence of the Commons, and that ſuch further Proceedings may bee had againſt them as to Law and Juſtice ſhall appertaine.

The Votes concerning the Biſhops late Booke of Canons, in the Houſe of Commons,

That the Clergy of England convented in any Convocation or Synod, or otherwiſe, have no power to make any conſtitutions, Canons, or Acts whatſoever, in matter of doctrine, or otherwiſe, to bind the Clergy or Laity of this Land without the Commons conſent of Parliament.

That the ſeverall Conſtitutions and Canons Eccleſiaſticall, treared upon by the Archbiſhops of Canterbury and Yorke, Presidents of the Convocation, for the reſpective Provinces of Canterbury, and Yorke, and the reſt of the Biſhops and Clergy of theſe Provinces, and agreed upon by the Kings Maſteſties licence, in their ſeverall Synods, began at London and Yorke 1640. doe not bind the Clergy or Laity, of this land or either of them.

F I N I S.